GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1466
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2017
Accidental Death of Sailors
Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some crewmembers/sailors on board cargo ship died and some other sustained injuries while cleaning a compartment of that ship off the Mumbai shore recently;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether any enquiry has been made by the Government in this regard; and
(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

Answer

(a)&(b):Yes, Madam. The Master and three crew members on board a cargo ship named Barge Orion II, of Indian Flag Vessel registered under the Inland Vessels Act, 1917 died while cleaning a compartment (tank) of that ship, off the Mumbai shore in the intervening night of 10th and 11th February 2017.The Barge Orion II was at Mumbai anchorage alongside of Merchant Vessel (MV) Thor Endeavour for cargo operation. A crew member who entered into No. 3 Starboard wing ballast tank of the barge for securing a portable pump hose at a height of about 3m from the tank entrance collapsed in the tank. Two crew members who went to rescue the crew also collapsed in the incident. Thereafter the Master and two other crew members followed suit to rescue. The Master collapsed while other two managed to escape. The Master was rescued with the aid of crew of MV Endeavour. The Indian Coast Guard evacuated the Master and shifted to hospital where the Master passed away.

(c)&(d):Yes, Madam. The Directorate General of Shipping has ordered a preliminary inquiry into the incident by Mercantile Marine Department. The report of the preliminary inquiry into the incident is awaited.

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